

REMARKS

Please enter the above amendments prior to consideration of the merits of the present application. By this amendment, claims 1-16 have canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein, and claims 17-24 have been added. No new matter has been added.

Applicants note that claims 17-24 correspond to allowed claims 1-8 from corresponding JP Application No. 2006-519667 (see Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program filed on March 13, 2008).

If there are any issues that the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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